(2) खुली प्रतियोगिता द्वारा अखिल भारतीय आधार पर सीधी भर्ती के संबंध में 200 प्वाइंट रोस्टर, 22 अक्तूबर, 1993 को जारी किया गया।

(3) अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों द्वारा भरे जाने वाले आरक्षण हेतु पात्रता के प्रमाण-पत्र का मॉडल आवेदन प्रपत्र 15 नवम्बर, 1993 को जारी किया गया।

(4) अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए जाति प्रमाण-पत्र जारी करने हेतु सक्षम प्राधिकारियों के नाम तथा उम्मीदवारों द्वारा प्रस्तुत किए जाने वाले प्रमाण-पत्र के मॉडल प्रपत्र को 15 नवम्बर, 1993 को अधिसूचित कर दिया गया है।

(5) खुली प्रतियोगिता के अलावा अखिल भारतीय आधार पर सीधी भर्ती के संबंध में 120 रोस्टर 29 दिसम्बर, 1993 को जारी कर दिया गया है।

(6) अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों के लिए न भरी गई आरक्षित रिक्तियों को अनारक्षित करने के संबंध में अनुदेश 30 दिसम्बर, 1993 को जारी कर दिए गए हैं।

(7) परीक्षा चयन के संबंध में अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए लागू किए जाने वाले आधारभूत न्यूनतम स्तर के सम्बन्ध में स्पष्टीकरण, 3 फरवरी, 1993 को जारी किया गया है।

Tribal Woman Killed for Witch Craft

3588. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the Indian Express of February 7, 1994, captioned, "Woman still killed for witch craft";

(b) if so, what is the number of tribal women killed for alleged practice of witch craft in different tribal areas on the country, during the past three years, indicating details of each case; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto, not only for preventing such atrocities, but removing the superstition and blind faith amongst the tribals and also eliminating the root cause by way of providing adequate health services and bringing it within the reach of all tribal pockets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information has been sought for from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House on its receipt.

Protecting Harijans and Tribals from Atrocities

3589. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Statesman of 1st February, 1994 to the effect that a Harijan Youth (Kannappa) of Kotaganahalli village in Kilar district was forced to eat his owned excreta on Saturday 29th January, 1994; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect the Harijans and tribals against such atrocities effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b) The information is under collection from the State Government of Karnataka.

Steps to Prevent Marriages of Minor Muslim Girls

3590. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any instructions to Wakf Boards at national

and State levels to prevent 'marriages' of minor Muslim girls with visiting foreigners from Saudi Arabia and other countries ; at the hand of girls parents who driven by object poverty offer their young daughters in marriage for consideration ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) how many cases of proposed marriages of such a nature have come to Government's notice and how many such marriages have been prevented during the past two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) No instructions have been issued by the Central Government to Wakf Boards regarding marriages of minor Muslim girls to the visiting foreigners.

(c) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Eradication of Scavening

3591. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :
SHRI N. E. BALARAM :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the eradication of scavenging is to be completed by the end of Eight Plan in March, 1997 according to the Central Legislation enacted by Government ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Central and State Governments towards this end ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) The National Scheme of Liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers commenced from the last week of March, 1992 with the objective to liberate and rehabilitate the scavengers and their dependents in alternative and dignified occupations. It is aimed to eradicate this obnoxious practice of scavenging within a period of five years i.e. Government has enacted two legislations the one for abolishing the practive of scavengtng witin a period of five yearplla. Government to set up a National Commission for Safai Karamcharies for effective monitoring of the implementation of the programme of liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers. Central grant is given to the State Governments and U. T. Administrations as per their requirements for the scheme. Accordingly, central assistance of Rs. 50.50 crores and Rs. 60.73 crores were released during 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively. Rs. 73.20 crores have been provided for the programme during 1993-94. The number of scavengers identified so for is 6.74 lakhs. Number of scavengers trained and rehabilitated during 1992-93 was 15,592 and 19,189 respectively. The target for 1993-94 is to train and rehabilitate 27,521 and 95,419 scavangers respectively.

Criteria to Define OBCs

3592. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHAKER DAVE :

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Creamy layer" of OBC is differently defined by State Governments and these definitions widely differ from the central criteria;